

TMH:trsh

AO 91 (Rev. 11/11) Criminal Complaint

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

District of Minnesota

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

Case No.

13-mj-137 ASB

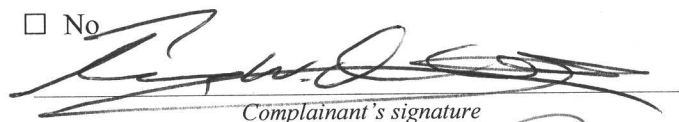
JOSE ALFREDO VARELA-MERAZ

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, Special Agent Terrence W. Olstad, Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA"), the undersigned complainant, being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. On or about March 25, 2010, in Hennepin County, in the State and District of Minnesota, the defendant, Jose Alfredo Varela-Meraz, did unlawfully, knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, a controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A).

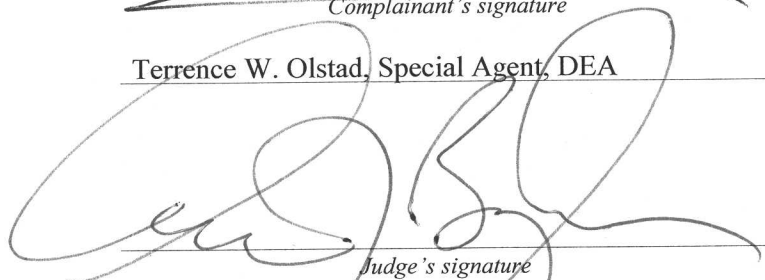
I further state that I am a Special Agent with the DEA and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT

Continued on the attached sheet and made a part hereof: ☒ Yes ☐ No
Complainant's signature

Terrence W. Olstad, Special Agent, DEA

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence.

Date: March 1, 2013
Judge's signatureCity and state: Minneapolis, Minnesota

Arthur J. Boylan, Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge



STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) AFFIDAVIT OF TERRENCE W. OLSTAD
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

I, Terrence W. Olstad, being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. I am a Special Agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and have been so employed since 1996. I am currently assigned to the Minneapolis-St. Paul District Office and am charged with investigating drug trafficking violations under Title 21 of the United States Code. I have received 16 weeks of specialized training pertaining to drug trafficking, money laundering, undercover operations, and electronic and physical surveillance procedures. I have been involved in numerous investigations dealing with the possession, manufacture, distribution, and importation of controlled substances.

2. This affidavit is submitted in support of a criminal complaint charging Jose Alfredo Varela-Meraz with possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(A).

3. The facts and information contained in this affidavit are based upon my personal knowledge and the investigation and observations of other officers and agents involved in the investigation. All observations referenced below that were not personally made by me were related to me by the persons who made such observations. This affidavit contains information necessary to support probable cause for this application. It is not intended to include each and every fact and matter observed by me or known to the government.

4. On March 25, 2010, surveillance officers saw Jesus Garcia-Sapien ("Garcia") leave an apartment building in Maplewood, Minnesota, in a gold Jeep Cherokee. He drove to a parking lot in Roseville, Minnesota, where surveillance officers saw a person later identified as Jose Alfredo Varela-Meraz ("Varela") enter his vehicle. Garcia and Varela then drove off followed by a white Jeep Cherokee. The driver of the white Jeep Cherokee was later identified as Ismael Ramirez-Perra ("Ramirez"). After driving a short distance, Garcia stopped his vehicle. Varela then got out and entered the white Jeep Cherokee.

5. Surveillance officers then followed Varela and Ramirez to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where they were stopped by the police. Prior to the stop, the police saw Varela making furtive movements while seated in the front passenger seat. After the stop, the police seized a substance under the carpeting where Varela was seated which was later determined to be 447.1 grams of methamphetamine (with a purity of 99.6%). Officers also located a small baggie containing a substance which was later determined to be 5.6 grams of methamphetamine (with a purity of 58.3%).

6. The police conducted a more thorough search of the vehicle on April 6, 2010, and seized a Springfield 9 millimeter handgun and a substance later determined to be 678.6 grams of methamphetamine (with a purity of 79.8%), both of which were hidden under the center console of the vehicle. A chemical analysis later determined that Varela's DNA was found on the handgun.


7. Based on the foregoing, there is probable cause to believe that on or about March 25, 2010, in Hennepin County, in the State and District of Minnesota, Jose Alfredo Varela-Meraz possessed with intent to distribute 500 grams or

more of a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(a)(1)(A).



Terrence W. Olstad
Special Agent, DEA

Sworn and subscribed to before me
this 18 day of March, 2013.



Arthur J. Boylan
Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge